

REMARKS

Status of the claims:

With the above amendment, claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claims 1-3, 5, and 7-9 are pending and ready for further action on the merits. No new matter has been added by way of the above amendments. Support for the amendment to claim 1 can be found at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 12. Claim 9 has been amended to make it clearer. Entry of the amendment and reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

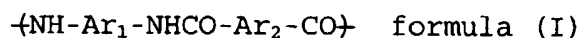
Rejections under 35 USC §103

Claims 1-3, 5 and 7-9 have been rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hachiboshi '802 (US Patent No. 4,133,802) in view of Suwarnasarn '019 (US Patent No. 4,833,019) and further in view of Asakura '702 (US Patent No. 4,645,702).

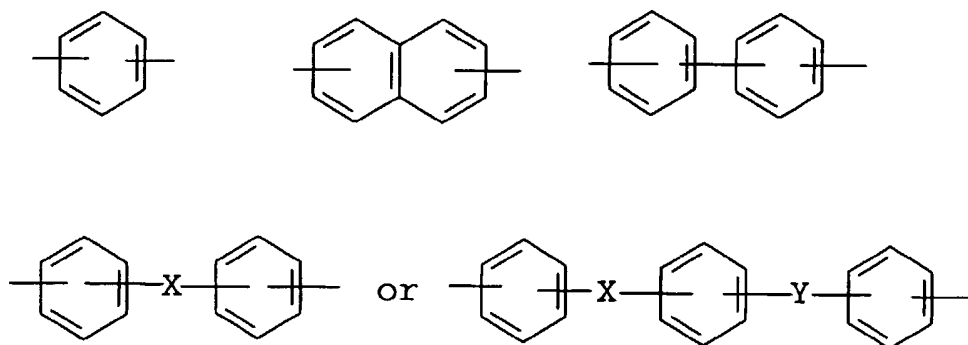
Removal of the Rejection over Hachiboshi '802 in view of Suwarnasarn '019 and further in view of Asakura '702

The Examiner has indicated that claim 1 would be allowable if claim 1 is amended to include the definition for aromatic polyamide that occurs at page 6, line 13 to page 7, line 12 (i.e., 50 molar percent of the repeating units represented by the formulas (I) or (II)). Accordingly, Applicants have amended claim 1 accordingly.

Moreover, none of Hachiboshi '802, Suwarnasarn '019, or Asakura '702 disclose or suggest an aromatic polyamide film wherein the Poisson's ratio of the traverse direction (TD) to the longitudinal direction (MD) is less than 0.4, and wherein a tensile modulus at least in one direction is at least 7 Gpa wherein at least 50 molar percent of the repeating units are represented by the following formulas (I) and/or (II)



wherein Ar1, Ar2, and Ar3 are each independently



and X and Y are each selected from the group selected from -O-, -CH₂-, -CO-, -SO₂-, -S-, -C(CH₃)₂-, and wherein the rings represented in formulas (I) and (II) may optionally be substituted with a halogen, a nitro group, an alkyl group, an alkoxy group, and wherein the hydrogen in the amide group may be substituted with a substituent group.

Thus, Applicants believe that the rejection has been obviated. Withdrawal of the rejection is warranted and respectfully requested.

With the above remarks and amendments, Applicants believe that the claims, as they now stand, define patentable subject matter such that passage of the instant invention to allowance is warranted. A Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

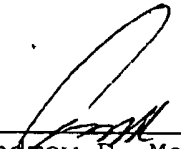
If any questions remain regarding the above matters, please contact Applicant's representative, T. Benjamin Schroeder (Reg. No. 50,990), in the Washington metropolitan area at the phone number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By


Andrew D. Meikle, #32,868

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ADM/TBS/mua

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000